

December 27, 2020

First Sunday after Christmas

Opening Hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory LSB 367



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,
all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing
Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text and tune: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13 LSB 203

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution

[John 20:19-23] LSB 203

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

Mark 10:47 LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:10–62:3

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 61.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
 my soul shall exult in my God,
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
 so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
 to sprout up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
 and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
 until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
 and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your righteousness,
 and all the kings your glory,
 and you shall be called by a new name
 that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
 and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Galatians 4:4-7

A The Epistle is from Galatians, chapter 4.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Stand***Alleluia***LSB 205***Verse***Luke 2:30, 32*

(Solo) Alleluia. My eyes have seen your salvation; a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. Alleluia.

Alleluia*LSB 205***Holy Gospel***Luke 2:22-40*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Announcements

Hymn of the Day: In His Temple Now Behold Him

LSB 519

1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -
2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -
3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,
pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,
hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him
weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,
God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,
Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,
Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us
His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.
al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Eternal Lord God, in the fullness of time, You sent forth Your Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem us and give us the adoption as Your sons and heirs. Hear us, Father, as we call to You in His name. Give us grace to rejoice in Christ's blessed incarnation, and grant us a glad new year. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, from whom all fatherhood on earth is named, bless the families of all Christians with Your promises. Give parents diligence and delight in their work, and grant Your favor on all children, that they may grow in strength and wisdom. Bless all widows, orphans and broken families also with Your mercy, and give them joy in the redemption You have won for us in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O worthy Judge, from You proceeds the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge and the fear of the Lord. Give wisdom to those who make, administer and judge our laws, that they may serve faithfully in their tasks, according to Your good pleasure, for the benefit of our people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Lord, receive our prayers for those who suffer from loneliness. Comfort them with the sure and certain knowledge that they will never be forsaken by You. Give them family and friends within the household of faith with whom they can find loving companionship. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Lord, help the sick and suffering, especially those who desire our prayers [_____]. Surround them with Your love in Christ and, according to Your gracious will, heal them. Comfort all those who mourn [*especially* _____] and fill their hearts with the certain hope of the resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father of lasting peace, show Your mercy to those who receive the Lord's Supper this day, that they would behold their salvation in the very body and blood of Christ given for them and, with St. Simeon, be well-prepared to depart in peace according to Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

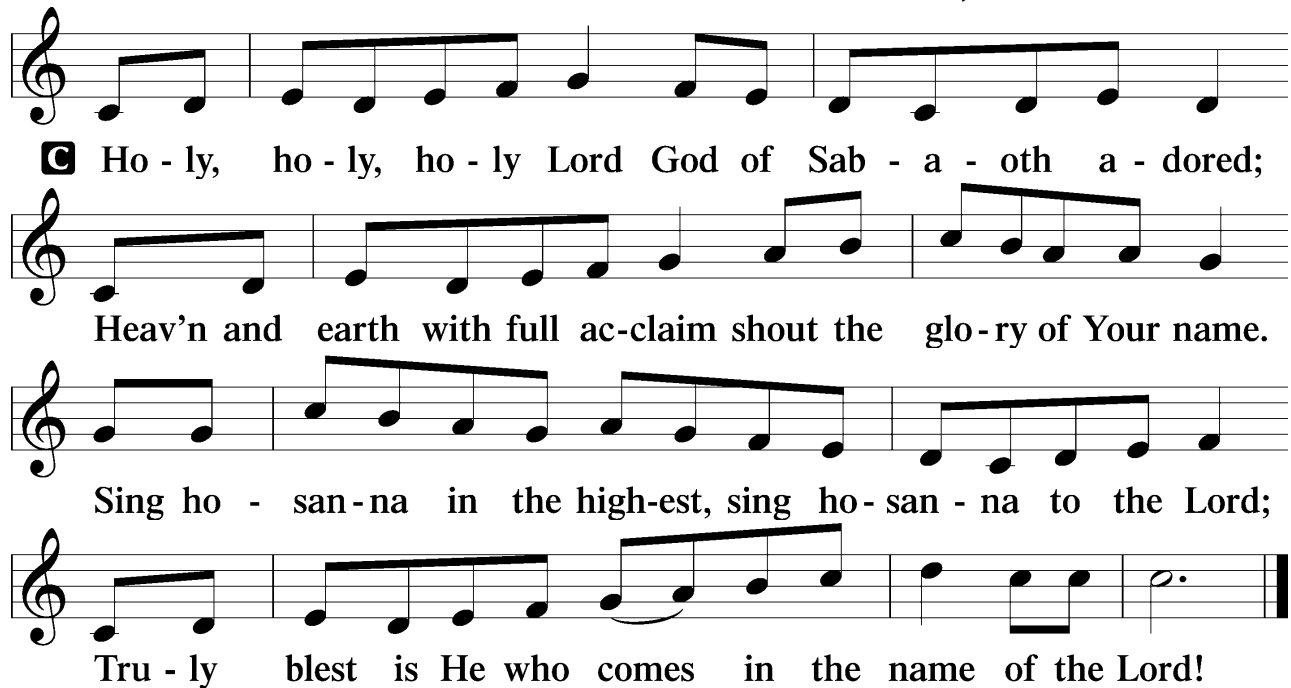
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.
 In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.
 Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
 Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- C** Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 210

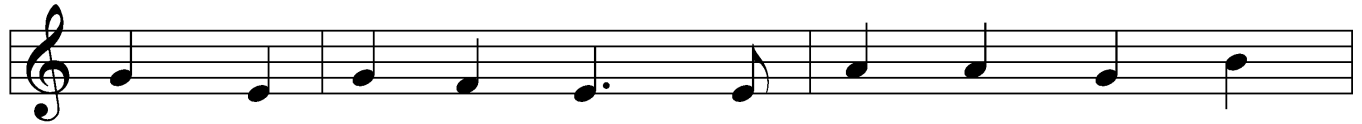
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution Hymn: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

LSB 358 sts. 8-15



8 Wel - come to earth, O no - ble Guest, Through whom the
 9 Ah, Lord, though You cre - at - ed all, How weak You
 10 Were earth a thou - sand times as fair And set with
 11 In - stead of soft and silk - en stuff You have but



sin - ful world is blest! You came to share my
 are, so poor and small, That You should choose to
 gold and jew - els rare, It would be far too
 hay and straw so rough On which as King, so



mis - er - y That You might share Your joy with me.
 lay Your head Where low - ly cat - tle late - ly fed!
 poor and small A cra - dle for the Lord of all.
 rich and great, To be en - throned in roy - al state.

12 And so it pleases You to see
 This simple truth revealed to me:
 That worldly honor, wealth, and
 might
 Are weak and worthless in Your
 sight.

13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
 Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
 A quiet chamber set apart
 For You to dwell within my heart.

14 My heart for very joy must leap;
 My lips no more can silence keep.
 I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
 That sweetest ancient cradlesong:

15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
 Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
 While angels sing with pious mirth
 A glad new year to all the earth.

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem LSB 361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: 897 O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly *LSB 897*



1 O re - joice, ye Chris - tians, loud - ly, For our joy has
2 See, my soul, thy Sav - ior choos - es Weak - ness here and
3 Lord, how shall I thank Thee right - ly? I ac - knowl - edge
4 Je - sus, guard and guide Thy mem - bers, Fill them with Thy



now be - gun; Won - drous things our God has done.
pov - er - ty; In such love He comes to thee.
that by Thee I am saved e - ter - nal - ly.
bound - less grace, Hear their prayers in ev - 'ry place.



Tell a - broad His good - ness proud - ly, Who our race has
Nei - ther crib nor cross re - fus - es; All He suf - fers
Let me not for - get it light - ly, But to Thee at
Fan to flame faith's glow - ing em - bers; Grant all Chris - tians,



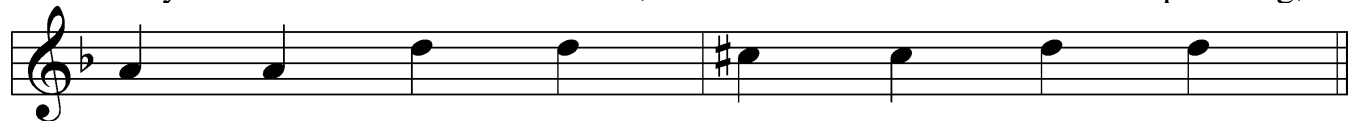
hon - ored thus, That He deigns to dwell with us.
for thy good To re - deem thee by His blood.
all times cleave And my heart true peace re - ceive.
far and near, Ho - ly peace, a glad new year!



Refrain
Joy, O joy, be - yond all glad - ness, Christ has done a -



way with sad - ness! Hence, all sor - row and re - pin - ing,



For the Sun of Grace is shin - ing!

Note: The congregation will be dismissed by the ushers from the back of the sanctuary. After the closing hymn, please be seated and await your turn. Thank you.

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today	12:00 PM	Worship - Masks Required
Today	1:00-2:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Monday		NO Confirmation
Tuesday	5:00-7:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Wednesday		NO Bible Study

THANK YOU again to the musicians and readers who brought last Sunday's Christmas program together. God has blessed St. Paul with so many wonderful talents of all kinds. Thank you for sharing yours!

LWML - NEW DATE the next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 2nd at 10:00 AM.

NEW "COVID-CONSCIOUS" WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY Now on Sundays at 12:00 PM, we are hosting an additional worship service with additional COVID adaptations:

1. Everyone attending will be required to wear a mask.
2. Masks will be worn throughout the service.
3. We will omit singing hymns and liturgy will be abbreviated.
4. Communion will be offered each week and distribution will be the final part of the service so you may depart right away to limit the amount of close contact.

Our regularly scheduled worship times remain compliant with the current health orders on the basis of the adaptations outlined here in the bulletin. We recommend everyone wear a mask or, in cases of allowed exceptions in the health order, to socially distance.

DVD PLAYERS AVAILABLE We have some self-contained DVD players/screens available if you or someone you know is unable to stream the service, is temporarily hospitalized or isolated, or has a TV setup that makes watching DVD's challenging (cable boxes and input switching can be a real pain!). Contact the church office if this would benefit you or someone you know. A special thanks to a generous donor who has made these possible.

TITHES & OFFERINGS are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:00 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about "bill-pay" options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on "Give Online" - you'll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP is on Sunday mornings at 8:00, 10:30 AM & 12:00PM*. A letter explaining the adaptations and precautions we are taking are included in this bulletin for you to review. (12:00pm will require masks to be worn.)

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS Sundays at 9:30 AM we are covering the book of Daniel. Watch live or on-demand just like our worship services (YouTube, facebook, or www.spvc.org).

WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, facebook, or www.spvc.org – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

PASTORAL CARE Should you desire pastoral care during this time, please contact the church office 330.483.3883 or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

POTRALS OF PRAYER the January-March 2021 devotion booklets are now available.

PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to prayer@spvc.org - also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM. Attend safely in-person or watch the stream online live (or later, on-demand). Study on the Book of Exodus.

BABY BOTTLES Please keep collecting your change to drop in the bottles, as they will be turned over to the Oaks Family Care Center. Thank you.

VALLEY CITY FOOD PANTRY If you or someone you know needs food assistance, please contact LifeSpring Food Pantry at 330.328.3091. The monthly drive through food pantry is the third Saturday of the month from 10am-12pm at 1638 Lester Road, Valley City, OH. www.valleycity.org

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES Pastor is offering times when members can come to the church and receive communion separate from our regular worship times. Pastor and the Elders realize that there are some for whom attending a larger gathering is not recommended right now so we would like to provide a variety of opportunities to receive communion:

1. Check the posted times for “walk-in” communion below.
2. Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

“Walk-In” times at Church:

- Sundays, 1pm – 2pm
- Tuesdays, 5pm – 7pm
- Arrive anytime and come to the Fellowship Hall.
- We recommend you wear a mask before entering the building and keep it on until it is time to receive communion.
- There will be four waiting areas in the fellowship hall so that you can wait for the next opportunity.
- Pastor will come and welcome the next household group into the sanctuary where you can sit in the first row of pews.
- The service will consist of confession and absolution, prayer, creed, Lord’s Prayer, Words of Institution, Distribution, and a blessing. This is similar to home communion visits.
- Between groups, pastor will sanitize the area just used and prepare a fresh setup of communion elements. We will also alternate setups from pulpit side and lectern side to allow ample time for sanitation solutions to work.
- Pastor will then return to the fellowship hall and welcome the next household group that is waiting.

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

- To schedule a time other than the walk-in times
 - Call Pastor 440-458-0189
 - Visit www.spvc.org and click “Book with Pastor” to see available times for appointments.

RETURNING TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP, 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

- If you, or someone in your household would be considered “high-risk” for complications related to COVID-19, please be safe and stay home. Or, if you are not feeling well, or if someone in your household is not feeling well, please be considerate of others and be safe and stay home.
Included with this packet is a current description of “high-risk” categories.
- Recommend wearing a face covering/mask.
- Maintain social distancing (6-feet or more from others and no handshakes/hugs/etc.)
- Entering:
 - Sanitize your hands as you arrive please.
- Bulletin:
 - Pick up a bulletin at the table near the Welcome Center.
 - It is yours to keep! It contains the entire service including readings and hymns.
- Offering
 - Continue to make use of automatic giving via your bank or our website.
 - If you have brought your offering with you, place it in the basket as you pick up your bulletin.
- Seating
 - Every-other pew has been sectioned off. They have also been sanitized between services.
 - Please sit as a family unit with appropriate social distance between your family and others.
 - If we reach capacity in the sanctuary, we will provide additional seating in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.
- Communion
 - Pastor and an assistant will have just washed their hands and will be wearing masks and gloves.
 - Ushers will dismiss one family unit at a time to come forward and receive communion.
 - Communion will be received standing at the bottom of the steps, as we have done from time to time.
 - Place your hand out flat so that Pastor can place the Body of Christ into your palm.
 - Then, you take an individual cup from the tray.
 - Place the empty cup into the basket and utilize the hand sanitizer provided, if you desire.
 - Return to your seat via the narthex around to the back of the sanctuary (instead of the side aisles).
- Leaving
 - Ushers will dismiss pews beginning at the back of the sanctuary.
 - Please limit your lingering in the Fellowship Hall but rather make your way directly to the parking lot.
 - You are welcome to remain outside to greet one another. Please continue to observe appropriate social distancing.

What You Can do if You are at Higher Risk of Severe Illness from COVID-19

Are You at Higher Risk for Severe Illness?



Based on what we know now, those at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are:

- People aged 65 years and older
- People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility

People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including:

- People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
- People who have serious heart conditions
- People who are immunocompromised
 - Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications.
- People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
- People with diabetes
- People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
- People with liver disease

Here's What You Can do to Help Protect Yourself



Stay home if possible.



Wash your hands often.



Avoid close contact and stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.



Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.



Cover coughs and sneezes.

Call your healthcare provider if you are sick.

For more information on steps you can take to protect yourself, see CDC's webpage on [How to Protect Yourself](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/how-to-protect-yourself.html)



Prayers for Worship

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

IN MEMORY OF:

Loved ones ... by Dave & Carol Hesketh

Anna Gottl ... by Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes

IN HONOR OF:

Gil & Joyce Haury ... by Brian & Cheryl Dearth

Our Parents ... James & Jeanette Rafter

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

by Sam & Peg Jakabcic

by Stephen & Colleen Kato

*Please Note: Christmas plants may be taken home after the
Christmas Morning worship service, thank you.*